

Questions and Considerations for TERM Evaluations of a Parent

See TERM Handbook sections on “Required Format and Elements of a CWS Psychological Evaluation” posted on Optum TERM Website www.optumsandiego.com/

ADOPTION EVALUATION OF PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENT

Diagnostic Clarification and Treatment Recommendations are needed. Please see the accompanying Evaluation Request Form (04-178 and review all provided history from the social worker to see why diagnostic clarification and treatment recommendations are needed at this time.

Evaluation narrative MUST include the following components:

- a. What is the client’s cognitive/intellectual functioning?
- b. What is the client’s emotional and psychological functioning?
 - i. Concerns regarding a Psychotic, Mood, or Anxiety Disorder (DSM-IV TR Axis I mental health concerns): Are there indications of significant mental illness, such as psychotic symptoms or significant major depression? If so, please comment on the potential for impacting client’s ability to safely parent.
 - ii. Concerns regarding a Personality Disorder (DSM-IV TR Axis II pathology): Are there indications of personality or character pathology? What is the client’s level of insight and judgment regarding parenting an abused and/or neglected child
 - iii. What are the implications regarding the client’s ability to parent safely and/or benefit from services to facilitate a permanent adoption, including therapy?
- b. Are there any other diagnostic considerations that may be impacting the client’s motivation to participate in services or that may be impacting the client’s insight, judgment, and/or ability to safely parent?
- c. Are there any current alcohol or other substance abuse issues?
 - i. If so, what are your treatment recommendations?
 - ii. How might substance abuse impact this client’s ability to safely parent?
- d. Are there specific cultural/linguistic considerations regarding intervention choice or approach?
 - i. If so, is there a specific treatment modality that may be most appropriate?